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CHATTER ABOUT JANE.

It is now more than twenty years since the death of Carlyle, and nearly as many years since Froude completed his publication of the nine volumes of Carlyle biography, autobiography, and correspondence, that resulted from the discharge of the trust imposed upon him by his dead friend and master. The controversies excited by that publication constitute a memorable episode in our literary annals, but one not altogether pleasant to remember, and certainly not deserving resuscitation, except under the plea of the strongest necessity. Unfortunately, although no such necessity has been proved to exist, the controversy is again upon us in all its former acrimony, and "chatter about Jane" bids fair to usurp the places hitherto held in quasi-literary discussion by the "chatter about Harriet" which once loomed up so unpleasantly in the foreground when the genius of the greatest of English lyric poets came up for discussion.

The prime cause of the present offending was offered, a few weeks ago, by the publication of two volumes of "New Letters and Memorials of Jane Welsh Carlyle." For this publication, Mr. Alexander Carlyle is responsible; and to it Sir James Crichton-Browne has contributed an introduction which abuses Froude with even greater virulence than was displayed by the bitterest of his antagonists in the early eighties. Since Froude is as dead as Carlyle, the case has to be conducted by counsel on both sides, and the rebuttal in the present instance comes from the members of Froude's family, taking the shape of the publication of certain manuscript matters left by the historian to provide for his personal vindication. With great self-restraint, Froude kept these matters unprinted, in spite of the attacks made upon him during his last years; but his family has now thought it best to give them to the world. In a certain sense, their interest is petty (except for the pathological element), but the attack upon Froude has all along been characterized by pettiness of spirit, and the defense, if any were resorted to, must needs be in kind.

The underlying animus of the whole attack upon Froude has been occasioned by the single fact that, in his portraiture of the man whom he so loved and honored, he employed the methods demanded by Carlyle's own grim hero, Oliver Cromwell, and enjoined upon him by Carlyle's express behest. In a word, he painted the warts as well as the general contours of the visage. The sleek and decorous form of biography made no appeal to him, and his artistic conscience revolted from the methods of the easy hero-worship that idealizes its subjects out of all recognition. Unfortunately, his scholarly conscience did not keep pace with his artistic conscience. As a historian, he was deplorably careless, and even wanton in his disregard for exactness of statement and quotation. We do not need to instance in support of this proposition the long list of inaccuracies in his transcription of the Carlyle correspondence and memoirs; it may be proved with equal certainty from almost any part of his other work, from his treatment of the archives at Simancas or of the letters of Erasmus. His defense on this point is inadequate. He says of the Carlyle papers:

"I copied out the greater part of the 'Reminiscences' myself. A large part of them I copied twice; I had to work at them with a magnifying glass, and in many hundred instances I was at a loss to know exactly what particular words might be. My own hand is not a good one, and there was a further source of error in the printer's reading of this."

We may make some allowance for these conditions, but they do little to weaken the force of the charge that Froude was constitutionally inaccurate in his scholarly habit, and that he resorted to an unjustifiable degree of license in all his dealings with documentary material.

Admitting all this, we still believe that the attacks made upon him, both before and since his death, by the injudicious partisans of the Carlyles, have been unwarrantably unfair and brutal. The charge of inaccuracy, which is one thing, has been quite unjustifiably perverted into the charges of sensationalism and treachery, which are wholly different matters. It is proper to protest against the method of relentless setting-forth and unsparing exposure in biographical writing; but it is highly improper, when a man employs that method in all sincerity, to accuse him of making a deliberate attempt to pull his subject from the pedestal. This accusation, indeed, carries its own refutation to those who read Froude's frequently expressed admiration for his friend and teacher. "Falsehood and concealment," he says, "are a great man's worst enemies; such at least is the doctrine about the matter which I learnt from Carlyle himself." The man whose warfare upon shams was lifelong would have been the last to sanction a sham account of his own life, and there is abundant evidence that Carlyle knew what he was doing when he placed his private papers in Froude's hands, to be made use of at his discretion. The following words, from the author's statement now for the first time published, deserve to be pondered by those who have been hasty in their judgment.

"My book, if it is still to be condemned at present, will be of use hereafter. A hundred years hence, the world will better appreciate Carlyle's magnitude. The sense of his importance, in my opinion, will increase with each generation. The unwillingness to look closely into his character will be exchanged for an earnest desire to know all which can be ascertained about him, and what I have written will then have value. It may not be completely correct, but it will have made concealment impossible, and have ensured that the truth shall be known. The biographies of the great men of the past, the great spiritual teachers especially, with whom Carlyle must be ranked, are generally useless. They are idle and incredible panegyrics, with features drawn without shadows, false, conventional, and worthless."

It is peculiarly unfortunate that the Carlyle controversy should have excited to such excessive partisanship almost everyone who has shared in it. It is amusing, but not altogether edifying, to read in Mr. Swinburne's prose of "the eminent writer who chose to make his entry into literary life under the self-selected name of Devilsdung," and for whom "the comparatively inoffensive designation of Coprostom or Cloacinus" is suggested as not unbecoming, or in the same author's verse to read of "this dead snake,"

"Let worms consume its memory with its tongue,
The fang that stabbed fair Truth, the lip that stung
Men's memories uncorroded with its breath."

But we prefer even this violence of invective to the shameful insinuations of Mr. W. S. Lilly, who in a recent article suggests that Froude wished above all else to make his biography a *succès de scandale*, and that "the practicality of Judas covenanting for the thirty pieces of silver" offers a fair parallel to the mean mercenary motives imputed to the biographer. This is all very distressing, and yet how typical it is of much that has been said and written about Froude and Carlyle since the publications that precipitated the controversy! It is obvious that neither fairness nor sanity is to be expected from the partisans of either camp when they indulge in such empty rhetoric. Sir James

Crichton-Browne has sinned heavily in again opening the flood-gates of this sort of intemperate talk, and in personally adding to its muddy volume. The letters for which he stands sponsor have nothing that is essentially new to tell us about the Carlyles, and he himself has for us nothing more convincing than stale repetitions of the old abusive language for their literary executor. It would have been far better to let the whole matter rest where it was before.

As it is, the facts which Froude himself concealed, or at least obscured, have been brought into the light by the printing of his own self-vindication, hitherto kept from the public. While "My Relations with Carlyle" does not perform the impossible task of revealing patient and accurate scholarship beneath the impressionism of Froude's literary methods, the pamphlet does make it clear that his portrait of Carlyle was, if anything, softened in outline rather than made unduly harsh. It also makes clear the fact that Froude suffered in silence during the last years of his life from calumnies that he might have refuted by a little plain speaking, but that he preferred to bear with dignity rather than reveal certain matters intimately touching the relations of the Carlyles — matters which, with all his hatred of concealment, he had yet thought it wise to suppress. The pamphlet also clears him completely of the accusation that he was in any way actuated by a sordid motive in his publication of the manuscript material left by Carlyle so unreservedly at his disposal.

But, although the net result of these new publications, on both sides, is to leave Froude's reputation in better shape than it was before, we cannot but regret their appearance. They have reopened the whole question of the ill-assorted Cheyne Row *ménage*, and have given a renewed opportunity for vulgar persons, curious in malicious gossip and petty personalities, to roll their tongues over the private affairs of the irritable Thomas and the exasperating Jane. Twenty years ago we were treated to more than enough of moralizing upon these unprofitable themes, and now the tongues are all set wagging again, and "chatter about Jane" is once more to the fore in conversation. It is a sad business, and the worst of it is that the affair seems more likely than ever before to become imbedded in the history of English literature, although everything essential to that history might very well be set down without so much as mentioning the fact that Carlyle was married.

The New Books.

Nearest to the North Pole.*

Two quarto volumes, profusely illustrated, contain the unabridged account for popular reading of the expedition of the Duke of the Abruzzi to the Arctic regions, in which Commander Umberto Cagni of the Italian Royal Navy succeeded in attaining a higher latitude than any recorded, in company with three companions, Giuseppe Petigax and Alessio Fenoillet, Alpine guides, and Simone Canepa, an Italian mariner. No better summary of the expedition can be made than that written by the Duke of the Abruzzi to the King of Italy, at Hammerfest, Norway, on the return of the ship on the 6th June, 1901, reading in translation as follows:

"To His Majesty King Victor Emmanuel III: The *Polar Star* has arrived, and goes on to Tromsö and Christiania. She passed through British Channel last summer, went beyond Cape Fligely in Prince Rudolph Island, and came down to pass the winter in Teplitz Bay, in 81° 47′ N. lat. On September 8th a strong pressure of the ice crushed the ship, and caused much leakage. Being unable to keep down the water, we abandoned the ship. We built a hut on the shore with the spars, the sails, and the tents, in which we passed the winter very well. At the beginning of the year the ends of two fingers of my right hand were obliged to be amputated on account of frost-bite. I left the command of the sledge expedition to Cagni. It set out on February 20th (1901). The intense cold forced it to return after two days. It left again, under Cagni, on March 11th, and was composed of Querini, Cavalli, the engineer of the ship, two Italian sailors, four guides, thirteen sledges, and 104 dogs. Three Norwegians helped them for the first two days. The first detachment, composed of Querini, the engineer, and a guide, was sent back after twelve days' march, and never returned to the hut. The second detachment, composed of Cavalli, a sailor, and a guide, was sent back after twenty days' march, and arrived at the hut in excellent health on April 18th. Cagni pushed on to the north with two guides and a sailor until April 25th, and reached 86° 34′ N. lat. A strong drift of the ice and the want of food made the return of this detachment difficult and laborious. For several weeks it fed on its dogs, and reached the hut on June 25th, after passing 104 days on the ice-pack. Petermann Land and King Oscar Land do not exist. The *Polar Star* was held up by the ice and did not sink. A faint hope of saving her had made us undertake at the end of autumn whatever measures were most necessary to repair her; they were continued in July, and after many efforts I succeeded

*On the "Polar Star" in the Arctic Sea. By H. R. H. Luigi Amedeo of Savoy, Duke of the Abruzzi. With the Statements of Commander U. Cagni upon the Sledge Expedition to 86° 34′ North, and of Dr. A. Cavalli Molinelli upon his Return to the Bay of Teplitz. Translated by William Le Queux. In two volumes, illustrated. New York: Dodd, Mead & Co.

in floating her on August 6th. We left Teplitz Bay on the 16th. We were blocked up by the ice in British Channel for fourteen days. We reached Cape Flora on August 31st, and Hammerfest to-day. Querini was sent back by Cagni while still within sight of Prince Rudolph Island. The weather was cold, but fine, during the following days, the ice was in contact with the coast, and everything was exceptionally favorable to his return. It is with great grief that I must suppose that his loss and that of his two men must have been caused by some accidental mishap. The steadfast courage and determination manifested by the leader of the sledge expedition and by all who composed it, in spite of immense hardships, assured its success, and acquired fresh glory for our country, by making its flag wave at the highest latitude which has hitherto been reached. All present are in excellent health. May your Majesty deign to accept the loyal homage of all the members of the expedition."

This succinct report not only summarizes the actual deeds of the most successful of all polar expeditions, but between its lines may be read the sorrows and joys and varied personal experiences which humanize such an undertaking. Apart from the actual tragedy underlying the total and unaccounted for disappearance of the three unfortunates of the first detachment, the manly surrender, by the Prince of the Abruzzi himself, of all his longings to lead, when he learned, after repeated trials, that his frost-bitten hand incapacitated him for the task to which all his energies had for several years been directed, is quite the finest thing in the book. Yet it does not appear from anything he himself writes (and the first volume is wholly given up to his personal account of the voyage and journey) that he took this deprivation much to heart. Indeed, if it were not known that he had shown the utmost possible courage, determination, and perseverance, in his mountain climbing, especially in his ascent of Mount St. Elias in Alaska, it might be possible to think unworthily of his staying behind when confiding the lives of his subordinates to the pitiless rigors of the ice-pack.

The Prince is free to ascribe much of his success to the counsels of Dr. Nansen, who manifested in the most practical way his interest in the undertaking through a series of months while the preparations for it were in hand. The Prince's own contribution to its success, indeed, lies chiefly in his selection of guides from the Val d'Aosta, men to whom snow and ice, in a form more difficult than the ice-pack ever presents, were affairs of daily life. The testimony of Commander Umberto Cagni, whose personal narrative occupies two-thirds of the second volume, to the qualifications of his three companions in the attainment of their ambition, is unqualified; and it may be hoped that all future explorers in the far North will be so fortunate as to provide themselves with equally useful and efficient aids to success.

Though the Pole was not reached, the manner of carrying on the task prescribed the conditions for ultimate success. As will be seen from the summary, the plan of operations was for three several detachments to set forth at once, their joint and several tasks being thus outlined:

"The first detachment was to advance from Cape Fligely to the 85th parallel, carrying supplies to feed the entire expedition during the first stage of its march, and for its own food during its return to the ship. The second detachment was to go on farther to the north, up to the 88th parallel, with provisions for the rest of the expedition in its march to the north, and for itself when on the way back; and, lastly, the third detachment was to advance from the 88th parallel to the Pole."

The circumstances of the expedition of the Prince of the Abruzzi, though fortunate in some respects, were by no means ideally fitted for the achievement of success. It is quite within the possibilities that another expedition, similar in every respect, might have stood upon the spot men call the North Pole. It is quite within the possibilities that, even under the conditions here, had a fourth detachment been practicable to advance the final body somewhat farther, the Pole would have been attained. In any event, it is doubtful if there is anything more to be learned of the Arctic zone than has now been disclosed. Barely two hundred miles now separate man from this hardly profitable spot, the men of the "Polar Star" having surpassed those of the "Fram" by 20′, no more. This being true, it is the South Pole which remains to be conquered; and if human energies and the desire for adventure are to be exhibited outside of the ordinary walks of life at all, who shall say that such trials and glories are not better than those of war or the subjugations of "inferior" peoples?

The company was composed of twenty men, eleven Italians and nine Norwegians, four from each nationality being officers. There was perfect harmony and sacrifice of self for common ends on the part of both nationalities, widely differing in racial characteristics as they might be supposed to be. The exigencies of princely and naval etiquette forced the two classes to occupy different sleeping apartments and tables, but the accommodations and food were alike for all. Though less democratic in this respect than Dr. Nansen's arrangements, every-

thing worked out satisfactorily, all hands joining in the festival days of both Italy and Norway, the differences of faith manifesting themselves not at all. It really seems to be true that one Gino Gini of Acquapendente, an Italian cook picked up in Norway, showed no less straightforward courage in the performance of his arduous daily tasks in and out of health than any member of the ship's company.

Interest naturally attaches to the diary of Commander Cagni, and an extract from his diary on April 24, 1901, the day when the highest latitude achieved by man was reached, is worthy a place here. He writes:

"We go out into the open air. The thermometer indicates –35°; but, nevertheless, I see, for the first time, the guides walking up and down after the soup. They are talking of *their* country! Of their Courmayeur, where at this moment the meadows appear covered with verdure, after their long rest under the white mantle of winter. We all remain outside for a long time, our minds enchanted by our great happiness. We have reached the end of all our fatigues; our return seems to us now like an excursion, our eyes turn no more with eagerness towards the north, but to the south, where, beyond so much ice, beyond a cold sea, and the rugged mountains of Scandinavia, and farther on again, our loved ones are waiting for us.

"The air is very clear; between the north-east and the north-west there stand out distinctly, some sharply pointed, others rounded, dark or blue or white, often with strange shapes, the innumerable pinnacles of the great blocks of ice raised up by the pressure. Farther away again, on the bright horizon, in a chain from east to west, is a great azure wall, which from afar seems unsurmountable. It is our '*Terræ ultima Thule!*'"

Praise should be awarded to Mr. Le Queux for his idiomatic translation and its freedom from Latinity. For their selection for this important task, as well as for the general excellence of the book in a mechanical sense, much praise must be awarded the publishers.

WALLACE RICE.

THE SLAVERY CONTROVERSY IN AMERICA.*

The work before us, "Political History of Slavery," sees the light seven years after the death of its author, the well-known newspaper writer, author of "The St. Clair Papers," and Manager of the American Associated Press. Mr. Smith had been requested by President Hayes to act as his literary executor and to prepare an account of his life and times. This led to extended preliminary studies in the great Slavery controversy, and the biography of Mr. Hayes was finally postponed to allow the preparation of these two volumes. They were practically ready for the press when their author died, leaving the original task unfinished. The portion which had been put into form was turned over to Mr. Smith's son-in-law, editor Charles R. Williams of "The Indianapolis News," who has the biography now in course of active preparation. As this severed to some extent the close connection originally intended between the two works, certain portions of the "History of Slavery," particularly those concerning President Hayes, were turned over to Mr. Williams for use in the biography. The manuscript has also received an addition in the form of a chapter on "The Failure of Reconstruction," by John J. Halsey, Professor of Political Science in Lake Forest University. We understand, indeed, that the entire work has had the advantage of Professor Halsey's scrutiny and suggestions, though there is not the recognition of this fact that one would naturally expect.

In the Introduction, by Mr. Whitelaw Reid, the distinguishing feature of the work is claimed to be "the relatively smaller importance attached by the author to sentimental agitations and agitators, and in the greater honor awarded to those who instead of brilliantly saying things that alienated support soberly did things that compelled it." Nothing is easier than to throw stones at the man who gives his life to agitation for some neglected moral principle. The "foe of compromise" can never be a popular man, and as the reform for which he works is pretty sure to come, if at all, through channels not of his choosing, it is a very easy thing to overlook or deny his causal relation to its coming. To suppose, however, that ordinary political agencies would have emancipated and enfranchised the American negro during the third quarter of the past century, or for many generations thereafter, without the preceding decades of fiery agitation by Garrison and his kind, is to suppose what is contrary to human nature and experience. We are not sure, therefore, that Mr. Reid might not better have said that the most conspicuous defect in the work is the author's failure to appreciate the relative importance of the early Anti-Slavery agitators in building up an element of determined moral opposition to the system large enough to compel the attention of the masses and force the question into practical

*A POLITICAL HISTORY OF SLAVERY. Being an Account of the Slavery Controversy from the Earliest Agitations in the Eighteenth Century to the Close of the Reconstruction Period in America. By William Henry Smith. With an Introduction by Whitelaw Reid. New York: G. P. Putnam's Sons.

politics, in spite of the efforts of machine politicians to keep it out.

The subject has been worked over too much to leave Mr. Smith anything essentially new for these volumes. Occasionally we get a letter never before in print, — as, for instance, a letter from Richard Smith, of the Cincinnati Gazette, deploring the second candidacy of Lincoln; but it is always of a class already well known. The real value of the work lies in its massing together of so large a store of material not otherwise readily accessible. The author has not divested himself of partisanship, and yet he is open to a recognition of the better characteristics of leaders of the opposition, and to the faults of prominent Whigs and Republicans. The power of Stephen A. Douglas as a debater receives due credit, as well as his sturdy and effective loyalty to the Union at the outbreak of the war. The moral deficiency of Webster's famous seventh of March speech is noted, and the incompetence and insubordination of Fremont's course in Missouri receives some attention. The deserved criticism of the War Department under Buchanan, however, is not followed by a similar treatment of the glaring mismanagement and dishonesty which was rife in the same department during the early portion of the Civil War and compelled the retirement of Simon Cameron from the Secretaryship.

Professor Halsey's chapter on "The Failure of Reconstruction" is a renewed exposition of the patent fact that the drastic legislation for the enforcement of the War Amendments did not prove able to secure the ends which its supporters in Congress and the country had in view. He is convinced, and reasonably enough, that either the Congressional or the Presidential plan put in force without any serious clash between the two would have secured much better results than were possible in the midst of the bitterness engendered during the struggle between the President and the Republican majority in the Senate and House. The great harm done by the "carpet-bag" rule which the political disqualifications of the Fourteenth Amendment and the Reconstruction acts made possible is fully recognized, and Hon. Daniel H. Chamberlain's scathing record of this disgraceful episode in American history is referred to and heartily endorsed.

In the light of subsequent history, one cannot read these volumes without continual cause to reflect upon the short-sightedness of our political vision. Our authorities rushed forward to annex Texas at the cost of a war, when we now know that a little waiting would have seen it fall into our lap with no outside opposition. Our people were wrought into frenzy over the Mexican accessions, — the one party in fear, and the other in hope, that they might be filled with slaves, — when we can now see that the Slavery interest was utterly powerless to colonize any material part of the territory in question, and was destined to remain so, even if Slavery itself had not been abolished when it was. Much blood, both good and bad, was spilled to decide the question whether Kansas should come into the Union with a slave or a free constitution, though the backward glancing eye can now detect at once the certainty that the population was to be so overwhelmingly free as to be able to wipe Slavery out of existence at its will before as many years should have elapsed as may be counted on one's fingers. What shall be done to give us the clear insight, in the midst of our political struggles, that we may apply our energies to better purpose?

W. H. Johnson.

America's Oriental Diplomacy.*

"Whenever the American representatives have approached the governments of China, Japan, Korea, and Siam, it was with the statement that their far-away people cherish no scheme of territorial aggrandizement in that region of the world, and that their only desire was to secure mutual benefit from the establishment of trade, and to extend the influence of Christian civilization."

This passage, taken from the last chapter of Mr. John W. Foster's recent monograph on "American Diplomacy in the Orient," states well the proposition which it has been his aim to sustain and illustrate in his book. By his extended public services as an official of the United States government, and his studies in its diplomacy, he was well equipped for the service of preparing this monograph. It is a timely supplement and companion to his historical sketch of two years since, "A Century of American Diplomacy," which was at once accorded a high position. Mr. Foster's present effort is more than a sketch, — it is a series of thirteen sketches on as many different episodes of America's experiences in Oriental diplomacy, during the period covered in a more general form by his earlier work. Each sketch aids in sustaining the general thesis.

American diplomacy is now generally recog-

* American Diplomacy in the Orient. By John W. Foster. Boston: Houghton, Mifflin & Co.

nized as peaceful in its general methods, scope, and operations. That it has been such from the beginning, has not been so fully understood. Mr. Foster carefully reminds his readers that the Oriental policy of national exclusion, which the western powers have had to combat, was of modern origin, but was in full operation when the United States, in 1788, assumed a position among the commercial nations; that this young State at once entered into the campaign for the opening of the closed Orient to trade, and in time became a leader therein; and that we have waged peaceful contests for such opening, in strong contrast to the forceful operations of the European powers.

That the ports of the Orient, which had been formerly open to free trade, were closed in the seventeenth century to the vessels of the western nations, was due to the aggressive and often violent conduct of their Occidental visitors. Seclusion became the fixed policy of the leading Oriental powers, as a measure of self-defense. The United States mariners were under this handicap at the beginning of their eastern voyages. It took time to demonstrate that the Yankees were neither marauders nor land-grabbers, but were simply peaceful traders. When they finally achieved this reputation, the progress to the present high position of the United States in Asiatic sentiment was steady and sure. With but one exception, the advances made by the Americans toward a sustained commercial intercourse in the far East have been eminently pacific. The ill-starred attempt of 1871, to inflict summary punishment upon Korea for resisting an American effort to open trade between the two countries, Mr. Foster characterizes "the most serious blunder of American diplomacy in the Orient."

The first American vessel entered the port of Canton in August, 1784. Our merchants at once sought to take advantage of the limited facilities for commerce with that one port, allowed by the Chinese; in 1789 they began to construct vessels expressly for the Canton trade, and thereafter they soon began to compete with Great Britain, the leading nation in Eastern traffic. Fairness, justice and courtesy won for the westerners the good opinion of the Chinese merchants and some of their neighbors; so that, whereas Great Britain compelled China by force of arms to enter into the treaty of 1842, the United States secured, in her peaceful treaty of 1844, advantages not theretofore granted by the Chinese to the Occidentals. With equal ease, an American treaty of commerce was arranged with the Sultan of Borneo in 1850. America was thus attaining to a capacity for melting away by kindness, in the fulness of time, the icy isolation of Japan and Korea.

Mr. Foster details graphically the successive triumphs of the United States, in Perry's opening of Japan in 1854, and the Harris treaty with that empire in 1858, of which he says: "The genius of Perry had unbarred the gate of the island empire and left it ajar; but it was the skill of Harris which threw it open to the commercial enterprise of the world." These triumphs were shown also in the subsequent transformation of Japan in conscious conformity to American National ideals; in the just popularity of Burlingame's management of the interests of the United States in China, and in the new treaties and the Burlingame embassy to the western powers which followed; in the wise and firm disapproval by America of the odious opium traffic; in Commodore Shufeldt's Korean treaty of 1882; and in the rapid but sure advance of our nation to favor and influence in the affairs of Korea. The eminent position which the United States occupied in the Chinese imbroglio of 1900, and the opportunities thus granted to her for guiding the Powers toward a fair settlement with the Chinese Empire, are thus shown to be the result of a gradual evolution, traceable from the date of the entry of the western republic into the world's politics.

Mr. Foster makes it clear that these American successes have been due primarily to two causes,—skill and energy in developing mercantile traffic, and wisdom and discrimination in pushing missionary enterprises. The merchant and the missionary have, hand in hand, advanced the United States flag in the far East. This author's recognition of the value of the work of the American missionaries is hearty and unstinted; and it is the more worthy to be noted here, because it comes from the point of view, not of the sentimentalist or the philanthropist, but of the historian and the diplomat. He gives cordial endorsement to the tribute of Minister Denby to the missionaries in China, "that their influence is beneficial to the natives; that the arts and sciences and civilization are greatly spread by their efforts; that many useful Western books are translated by them into Chinese; that they are the leaders in all charitable work; and that in the interest, therefore, of civilization, missionaries ought not only to be tolerated, but ought to receive protection."

In the concluding chapter, on "Results of the Spanish War," Mr. Foster traces into our recent national experiences as a world-power the natural effect of the restraint, suavity and discrimination with which our earlier and smaller efforts in Oriental diplomacy were ventured.

JAMES OSCAR PIERCE.

RECENT AMERICAN POETRY.*

The last verses of the late Hugh McCulloch have "Written in Florence" for a title,—in Florence,

> "Where even Winter brings a soft caress,
> And all the flowers of art together cling."

The verses are reflections from a cultivated mind, susceptible of the charms of art, nature, and historical association, and tinged with a not unnatural hue of melancholy. They have little of the singing quality, and their diction is often merely prosaic, but at their best they please, and exhibit a talent that now we may only mourn. A poem "To the Mediterranean," seems to us one of the most genuine in the collection, and we quote from it a pair of stanzas:

> "All memories which haunt the heart of man
> Cluster on you like bees about a rose;
> Upon your shores our history began,—
> Perchance your smile will hover o'er its close.
> Spouse of the sun, beloved of the dawn,
> Sole monument of ages past and gone,
> You yet may lie 'neath mantling Arctic snows.
>
> "And many a time my soul has shrunk aghast
> (On mornings clouded in September's mist)
> To dream upon your immemorial past;
> For you alone of earthly things resist
> Th' insidious offices of dusty time.
> To-day you are enthralling and sublime
> As when upon your shore the Immortals kissed."

Love lyrics and Nature lyrics divide pretty evenly between them the contents of "The Book of the Rose," which is the latest verse-collection by Mr. Charles G. D. Roberts. Mr. Roberts has undoubtedly the lyric gift, as many a preceding publication testifies, and he now and then achieves a rare degree of simple perfection. Such a gem of purest ray serene as "The Falling Leaves," for example, might shine unabashed in the crown of a far greater poet. We find nothing of that distinction in the new volume, but much that is graceful and musical, which qualities the following lines shall serve to illustrate:

> "Pipers of the chilly pools
> Pipe the April in.
> Summon all the singing hosts,
> All the wilding kin.
>
> "Through the cool and teeming damp
> Of the twilight air
> Call till all the April children
> Answer everywhere.
>
> "From your cold and fluting throats
> Pipe the world awake,
> Pipe the mould to move again,
> Pipe the sod to break.
>
> "Pipe the mating song of earth
> And the fecund fire,—
> Love and laughter, pang and dream,
> Desire, desire, desire."

Mr. Bliss Carman is gathering into a series of volumes, with "Pipes of Pan" for a collective title, his verse of recent years. Some of it has been published in periodicals, some in earlier books, and some of it is new. The first volume of this series is called "From the Book of Myths," and contains eight or ten pieces upon such classical subjects as Marsyas, Daphne, and Phædra. One poem, "The Tidings to Olaf," stands by itself, for it tells how the message of the Christian faith was brought to the Norse king. We quote an exquisite passage from the poem "At Phædra's Tomb."

> "Have ye not seen the fog from land
> Blow out to sea, and leave the band
> Of orange marsh and lilac shore
> To brood in Autumn peace once more?
>
> "So there survives the magic fame
> Of her imperishable name,—
> Light from a time when love was great,
> And strong hearts had no fear of fate,
> But lived and strove and wrought and died,
> With beauty for their only guide.
>
> "And yet this temple, raised and wrought
> With prayers and tears, availed her naught,
> The years with it have had their will;
> Her soft name is a by-word still
> For thwarted spirit, vexed and teased
> By yearnings that cannot be eased,—
> The soul that chafes upon the mesh
> Of tenuous yet galling flesh."

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*WRITTEN IN FLORENCE. The Last Verses of Hugh McCulloch. Boston: Little, Brown, & Co.

THE BOOK OF THE ROSE. By Charles G. D. Roberts. Boston: L. C. Page & Co.

PIPES OF PAN. From the Book of Myths. By Bliss Carman. Boston: L. C. Page & Co.

PIPES OF PAN. From the Green Book of the Bards. By Bliss Carman. Boston: L. C. Page & Co.

POEMS (1899–1902). By George Cabot Lodge. New York: Cameron, Blake, & Co.

MESSAGE AND MELODY. A Book of Verse. By Richard Burton. Boston: Lothrop Publishing Co.

LYRICS OF THE DAWN. By Clinton Scollard. Clinton, New York: G. W. Browning.

A VOICE ON THE WIND AND OTHER POEMS. By Madison Cawein. Louisville: John P. Morton & Co.

LATER LYRICS. By John B. Tabb. New York: John Lane.

THE GATES OF SILENCE, WITH INTERLUDES OF SONG. By Robert Loveman. New York: The Knickerbocker Press.

THE MORNING ROAD. Verses by Thomas Wood Stevens and Alden Charles Noble. Chicago: The Blue Sky Press.

DRAMATIC VERSES. By Trumbull Stickney. Boston: Charles E. Goodspeed.

VISIONS AND OTHER VERSE. By Edward Robeson Taylor. San Francisco: A. M. Robertson.

BEYOND THE REQUIEMS, AND OTHER VERSES. By Louis Alexander Robertson. San Francisco: A. M. Robertson.

POEMS AND VERSES. By Edward Sandford Martin. New York: Harper & Brothers.

CUPID IS KING. By Roy Farrell Greene. Boston: Richard G. Badger.

POEMS. By Mary Olcott. New York: John Lane.

POEMS. By Marie Van Vorst. New York: Dodd, Mead, & Co.

APRIL TWILIGHTS. Poems by Willa Sibert Cather. Boston: Richard G. Badger.

THE SOLITARY PATH. By Helen Huntington. New York: Doubleday, Page & Co.

Mr. Carman's second volume is called "From the Green Book of the Bards," and is frankly a volume of nature lyrics, in which the spirits of Wordsworth and Emerson seem compounded with the mysticism of the latter-day Celts. The poems in this book are briefer than those in the other, and about three times as numerous. We have been particulary impressed with "The Madness of Ishtar," for thus does the poet personify the passion of Springtime.

"She will gather the moonlight and starshine,
And breathe on them with desire,
And they shall be changed on the moment
To the marvel of earth's green fire, —

"The ardour that kindles and blights not,
Consumes and does not destroy,
Renewing the world with wonder,
And the hearts of men with joy.

"For this is the purpose of Ishtar,
In her great lone house of the sky
Beholding the work of her hands
As it shall be by and by:

"Out of the passion and splendour,
Faith, failure, and daring, to bring
The illumined dream of the spirit
To perfection in some far spring."

These may be called wild and whirling words, and we are not sure that we know what they are all about, but they have the true singing quality, and the essence of poetry is in them.

Mr. George Cabot Lodge's second volume of poems is, if anything, more Swinburnian than his first. He imitates with fair success nearly all of Mr. Swinburne's metrical schemes, and reproduces the sensuous and pagan spirit of Mr. Swinburne's early work, with an occasional touch of the austere idealism that afterwards so completely replaced it. He even ventures to write a "Song of Man," in bold imitation of the great poem suggested to the older singer by the Œcumenical Council of 1870.

"To the gods who are sure and sufficient, who are free and more fatal than Fate,
Who can tally the love of a virgin or the heart of a man in his hate,
Who are wise with a perfect remembrance, who reject not a creed nor a crime,
Who compassionate all, who interpret the ways and the wonders of Time!

"Who have builded and broken all laws of the Heaven and Earth, who are free,
Who have lifted the seals from the sunrise, made pregnant the womb of the sea,
Who have scattered the phantoms of heaven, wrecked the thrones of the world and their spell,
Who have sown and reaped harvest of flowers in the fire-waste deserts of hell!

"For my God is the friend that I cherish, and my God is the woman I love,
My God is the Spring on the hillsides, the Sea and the marvel thereof,
My God is the justice of sunlight unhindered by power or pelf,
And vast beyond all and inclusive of all things, my God is Myself."

This is the tacit creed of many a young poet, impatient of the old restraints upon reckless living, but it does not often receive so frank an expression. Mr. Lodge has a certain mastery of the long-drawn anapæst that would challenge our admiration were it not so obviously imitative.

"Let us press in the hidden wet ways of the forest filled full of the shadows and sounds of the past,
Let us travel the fields by the River of Years till the ways of the waters are open at last;
And our steed shall be staunch tho' he weary and wince at the spur, tho' his nostrils are purple with blood,
For the craving of Soul and the power of Love, for the freedom of Faith and the friendship of God!"

It is no easy matter to keep this sort of movement up for pages at a time, as Mr. Lodge more than once does. The following is perhaps the finest verse he offers us:

"Life's choice is this: the world or all the rest,"

but we are more than once made suspicious of his own ethical interpretation of the terms of this choice. His "all the rest" seems to be self-indulgence more than anything else. Here is where he has studied his Swinburne to little profit, and where his failure to comprehend the spirit of "The Pilgrims" and "Super Flumina Babylonis" is most noticeable.

"Message and Melody" is Mr. Richard Burton's fourth book of verse, and we are inclined to think that it is the best of the four. It shows more ripeness of experience than the earlier ones, and a deepening of the human sympathies. We quote "The Reformer," a piece which suggests the grave thoughtfulness of Sill.

"A man once stood before a frowning wall
Whereon was writ a lie since ancient days,
And threw his heart's blood by the cupful straight
Against the legend, so to wipe it out
Tapping his veins of all their purple yield
In his desire. At last he grew so weak
That, tottering-limbed, he heaved glazed eyes to heaven,
Sighed like a weary child, smiled once, and fell.
And when his dust was mingled with the mould
That giveth birth to flowers, the people woke
One morn, and looked upon the wall, to see
A clean erasure of the glozing words
Had grieved the man so, he that calmly slept,
Oblivious alike of loves and lies
That make our human story.
Then there ran
A whisper, soon a cry, across the land:
'God urged him to the act, and he was glad
To spill his blood and make us clearer-eyed.'
Whereat the very folk who carelessly
Passed by that day he drained his throbbing strength
And paled his flesh, upreared a cenotaph
And deified his name to after-times."

We could wish that Mr. Burton had taken his own teaching sufficiently to heart to prevent him from penning the following apology for imperialism:

"Yet the earth's stern law is spoken
In the march of centuries,
That the weak for good are broken,
That the strong must rule the seas.

"We may conquer in all gladness
If the cause be pure and high;
We can bear the passing sadness
For the blessing by and by."

These are "glozing words," if ever such were spoken, and this "lie writ since ancient days"

should not find among its defenders the author of so fine and true a poem as the one which we first quoted.

Mr. Clinton Scollard's "Lyrics of the Dawn" is a companion volume to "The Lutes of Morn," published a year or two ago. Like the earlier volume, it is a collection of poems mostly upon Oriental themes, the aftermath of a sojourn in the East which seems to have left a deep impression upon the poet's imagination. Mr. Scollard has a touch that frequently suggests the lyrics of Mr. Aldrich, and his Eastern pictures have the advantage of a basis of close observation in place of the bookish stimulus upon which the elder poet relied. We select "At Ephesus" for our quotation.

"'Great is Diana!' Ah, the mockery
It seems to-day, the old Ephesian cry!
Beholding what a waste the highways be,
And how downthrown the mighty temples lie.

"On shattered columns build the storks their nests;
Stealthy as fate the slinking jackals prowl:
Where poured the plandits at the actors' jests
In ghostly irony declaims the owl.

"The silt of centuries chokes the harborage;
And where the pharos beaconed from the height,
Guide to great galleys, weighed with outland wage,
Now broods, unchallenged, immemorial night.

"Nothing the vision rests upon reveals
The temporal grandeur that once here had birth;
And, gazing on the desolate scene, one feels
How mutable are all the things of earth."

This is a weak enough ending, but the image of the owl with his "ghostly irony" redeems the poem and makes it noteworthy. "The Count of Mirandel," a mediæval tale too long for reproduction, is one of the most effective pieces in this volume, and one of the few that depart from its general Eastern subject-matter.

We are inclined to think that Mr. Madison Cawein writes too freely and publishes too frequently for the best interests of his reputation, although we never take up a new volume from his pen without a sense of anticipatory satisfaction. We know what it will be about, but we also know that it will have much nature-imagery of an exquisite sort, and that it will offer us a highly spiritualized conception of life. Mr. Cawein's latest volume is called "A Voice on the Wind, and Other Poems." It may be represented fairly by "The Dead Day."

"The West builds high a sepulchre
Of cloudy granite and of gold,
Where twilight's priestly hours inter
The day like some great king of old.

"A censer, rimmed with silver fire,
The new moon swings above his tomb;
While, organ-stops of God's own choir,
Star after star throbs in the gloom.

And night draws near, the sadly sweet—
A nun whose face is calm and fair—
And kneeling at the dead day's feet
Her soul goes up in silent prayer.

"In prayer, we feel through dewy gleam
And flowery fragrance, and—above
All Earth—the ecstasy and dream
That haunt the mystic heart of love."

Such poetry as this is not to be discredited merely because the author has given us much work of the same quality before. And we cannot fail to notice in Mr. Cawein's latest volume the slow but sure ripening of his art.

Father Tabb's "Later Lyrics" are delicate verse-cameos of the sort to which he has accustomed us. Rarely exceeding a dozen lines each, these little poems embody simple thoughts and sentiments, sometimes merely commonplace, and at others touched with such imagination as we find in the following example:

"The world, they tell us, dwindles,
When matched with other spheres;
And yet in all their amplitudes
No place for human tears.

"How sterile is the sunshine,
How masculine the blue,
That breeds no shadow, nor betrays
A memory of dew!"

Mr. Robert Loveman is like Father Tabb in the choice of a form for his poetical expression, and the following bit might as readily have been found in the one poet as in the other.

"Old and yet young, the jocund Earth
Doth speed among the spheres,
Her children of imperial birth
Are all the golden years.

"The happy orb sweeps on
Led by some vague unrest,
Some mystic hint of joys unborn
Springing within her breast."

Mr. Loveman's little book is called "The Gates of Silence, with Interludes of Song." It is made up of such pieces as that above quoted, all voicing the eternal enigma of being, but relieved every now and then by a joyous lyric that forgets problems and simply sings.

"The Morning Road" is a collection of verses by Messrs. Thomas Wood Stevens and Alden Charles Noble. We understand that the authors are also the designers and manufacturers of the book, which is produced in a simple but singularly attractive form, and in a limited edition. There is much thoughtfulness about their metrical work, and a delight in the themes that appeal to the cultivated mind. The imagery is often striking, and the diction at times has a touch of distinction. Yet the total effect is one of hollowness, of high-sounding phrase that a close analysis does not justify, of an endeavor to be impressive at the cost of clear thinking and verbal restraint. Our meaning may be illustrated by an excerpt from the characteristic poem called "The Sphinx," which also illustrates a stanzaic form much affected by the authors.

"The womb of all the world is parched beneath the tropic breeze,
The earth 's a flameless furnace that taints the outer air,—
Beneath that sand no man may say what cities lie at peace,
Within that breast no man can guess what brand of soul is there;

"Hidden behind that stolid brow were spun the vast intrigues

That swayed the arms of Empire to conquest — and to death;
The silent voice that calls and calls across the barren leagues
Doth hover in that throat that lacks the benison of breath;
"Trusting the lips that never ope, the tongue that murmurs not,
Within that heart the phantoms lie of countless empty biers,
Around those feet the wrecks of wills are foundered and forgot,
Across that face the winds have hurled the dust of powdered years."

We confess that a feeling of bewilderment is the chief impression which we receive from this pretentious piece, and the others of similar character which go with it; but bewilderment, far from being the proper purpose of poetry, is something that should be shunned as absolutely fatal to the success of the poetic art.

Mr. Trumbull Stickney's "Dramatic Verses" make up another volume which is exceptionally praiseworthy from the mechanical point of view, and whose contents must be described in terms nearly similar to those which we applied to the volume just before considered. Yet we will add that there are in this work more frequent touches of distinction, and that the straining for original effects is more fully justified. The opening piece, "Kalypso," yields an extract which is illustrative of both the author's strength and his weakness.

"Over his head she stooped. Her odorous hair
Fell thickly o'er his face. She kissèd him
With all the sleepy honeys of her soul.
Her arms did slip along his neck, his breast;
She kissed him lazily upon the lids
And languorously on the brow, she kissed him
Trembling and fiery on the opened mouth.
And slowly —
Wind rose. Rustles crept to 's ear,
Thro' meshes of her hair he saw gray-blown
The thick tumultuous cloud blotted and streaked
With witchery of dead moon. The midnight whirred.
Sparsely the windy stars and feebly hung.
A little withered leaf blew by; it scratched
Him with its frittered edge. For it was autumn.
Autumn it was. Then did he know. No more
That year would he return, that year no more;
Rather, locked by the vastly circular
Walls o' the sea, the quashing roof of heaven,
Still suffocated in the changeless air,
Still vexed by incessant memory and recall,
Would stand in pain desirous of that dear
Fireside and her more dear and beautiful."

This is about as un-Homeric as anything could well be; yet despite its unpleasant staccato, its surfeit of kissings, and its far-fetched epithets, the passage has a certain power to grip the imagination and excite the nobler emotions. The title of the book is not so clearly justified by this poem as by some others, notably the story of "Ludovico Martelli," which gives us excellent Browning with a difference. The volume contains one piece, "Prometheus Pyrphoros," which is dramatic in form, and also a number of striking sonnets and lyrics.

Almost any gathering of current verse nowadays is sure to include one or more contributions from the Pacific coast, and the present review must find space for mention of two volumes of far Western poetry. Dr. Edward Robeson Taylor is already known to many readers, both by his original work and by his striking translation of the sonnets of M. de Heredia. His new volume is original, and is called "Visions and Other Verse." The chief defect of Dr. Taylor's work is found in the intrusion of an occasional jarring note, such an epithet as "immatchless," or a hopelessly unpoetical phrase like "the lightning bug," or a forced license such as

"He crushed his heart for wine of song
The sordid souls of men to glad."

Such things as these are unfortunate, and occur with too great frequency. Since the author's favorite form is the sonnet, our illustration shall take that shape. The sonnet is entitled "Adversity."

"When glad Fortuna, as a friend to thee,
Her more than liberal spoils before thee brings,
Beware the serpent, slyly hid, which stings
The soul with poison of Prosperity.
Thou never mayest revealing visions see,
Nor mount with seraphs on immortal wings,
Unless within thy deepest being springs
Some tear-fed fountain of Adversity.
The steel that Florence drove in Dante's heart
He fashioned to a lyre, whereon with ease
He deathless rose above the hells of hate;
And when life-wearied Milton sat apart,
Lonely and blind, he swept those organ keys
Whose tones from age to age reverberate."

Such verse as this is of course derivative — in the present instance clearly from Goethe and Tennyson — but it is dignified and sincere.

In Mr. Louis Alexander Robertson's volume, which also comes to us from California, "Beyond the Requiems" is the most ambitious piece, and gives a title to the collection. This is also Tennysonian in its inspiration, and goes in for cosmic emotion after the following fashion:

"All our knowledge is as nothing; Reason reels and Science sneers,
Faith below her falling altars lifts her fearless face and hears

"Every cherished creed derided, but still mumbles to her beads,
Dreaming that beyond the requiems deathless life to death succeeds.

"Hope's pale star still smiles above us, distant, indistinct, and cold;
As the primal moth beheld it do we now its beams behold.'

Lyrics, sonnets, and occasional verses fill out the volume, which is a thin one both as to content and to thought.

The verses outnumber the poems in Mr. Edward Sandford Martin's volume of "Poems and Verses," a disparity which does not prove greatly distressing when the verses are as pleasant as those which this cheery humorist knows how to write. Here is an example, snatched midway from a piece which contrasts the old education with the new:

"The shade austere of Puritan restraint
Showed sharper outlines, may be, then and now,
But not to hurt. For now the old complaint
Of joys curtailed gives place to wonder how

'Twixt stress of sports and pleasant things to do,
And waxing claims of growing knowledge, too,
The modern lad gets time to feel the joy
It was, and still must be, to be a boy."

A good many of Mr. Martin's pieces are of the occasional sort, and display a deftness of touch that would not have discredited Dr. Holmes. Even in the few instances in which he writes poetry, he preserves simplicity of diction, and his humor is lurking somewhere in the near background.

"To our dim sense God's plan seems often harsh.
Big fish eats small; earthquakes and storms destroy.'

Tennyson phrased it somewhat differently, but the matter is the same. Mr. Martin puts his best foot (or feet) forward in his titular poem, "The Sea Is His," from which we choose these stanzas:

"Urgent and masterful as here,
Man dreams and plans, and more and more,
As ages slip away, Earth shows
How need by satisfaction grows,
And more and more its patient face
Mirrors the driving human race.

"But he who ploughs the abiding deep
No furrow leaves, nor stays to reap.
Unmarred and unadorned, the sea
Rolls on as irresistibly
As when, at first, the shaping thought
Of God its separation wrought.

. . . . . .

"Great nurse of freedom, breeding men
Who dare, and, baffled, strive again!
A rampart round them in their youth,
A refuge in their straits and ruth,
And in their seasoned strength, a road
To carry liberty abroad!"

Lighter than Mr. Martin's lightest is the vein of "Cupid Is King," a volume of rather commonplace trifling in verse by Mr. Roy Farrell Greene. The following piece has about as much point as any:

"The second time that Jack proposed,
'Twas really a surprise,
Though I still — gossips so supposed —
Found favor in his eyes.
His first avowal, months before,
I'd treated with disdain,
And laughed at him the while he swore
He'd try again, again!

"The second time that Jack proposed
I never said a word,
Though to assent I'd grown disposed —
I simply overheard
By accident his earnest plea
While in the waltz's whirl —
The second time 'twas not to me,
But to another girl!"

The following piece is fairly representative of the volume written by Miss Mary Olcott, and called "Poems" without further ceremony. The title is "The Unceasing Fight."

"From the cold North rode out my foe.
I fought him to the death. And still
I see him in his mortal throe,
Urged by his strong, unconquered will
To fight on with one death-sent blow.

"Above his grim, white face I made
The brave sign of the cross. I broke
His sword, and the two parts I laid
Upon his neck, like to the yoke
His soul should feel when sins are weighed.

"Would God that all mine enemies
Were stark in death as that one was!
But till this life shall fail and cease
I must fight on. For no man has
Peace, till the end of life says, Peace!"

Miss Olcott's work is earnest and at times finely imaginative. We like particularly "Stonehenge" and the cycle called "By the Waters of Babylon." A quotation from the latter may be given.

"The light begins to creep, the river flows
Like a pale streak, while all the rushes lean
Upon the current, which moves on and on. . . . .
Soon shall we march engirdled with our woes,
Soon reach their God-spurned city all unclean.
The hour breaks on us, and a trumpeter
Sounds the known signal for our start and stir:
How the red dawn strikes fire at Babylon!"

In not a few of her pieces the author has caught something of the manner of Browning, especially the jerky dramatic manner which is a pronounced characteristic of the older poet.

There are many suggestions of Browning in the "Poems" of Miss Marie Van Vorst. The dramatic Browning is recalled by the group of longer pieces with which the volume opens, and Browning the love-lyrist by many of the songs that come later on. The closing lines of "Three Days More" may be quoted in evidence of our statement.

"Sudden, the spell snaps short to Fate!
Till that day — when I see your face —
There are still three dark days to climb,
To-day, to-morrow, and its mate."

A beautiful sonnet, the last of the group of four entitled "Viva! Anima Carissima," may be taken to stand for Miss Van Vorst's achievement at its highest reach.

"When they together saw the Calendar
Slip by in months that wore Spring all days long,
He made his lover's verse and roundel song
The burthen of the rhyme his love of her! . . . .
What though the storm swept by with rainy stir,
And winds, like ghosts, would 'round the windows throng,
They sat heart-linked, hand-linked; and bright and strong
Riot ran through their veins like Mid-summer.
For palm to palm is exquisite as May;
And lip on lip is mad July at best!
Where is the fire for this pale Winter's day?
For one who sits alone at Death's behest?
Ghosts of the storm peer in with charnel mirth
At ghosts of ashes on the gusty hearth."

There is a sonnet-ending that has the melancholy cadence with which Rossetti brought many a similar song to its period. The author does not often rise to this height of expression, but her work as a whole is out of the common, and may be commended to all to whom sincere and passionate emotion makes an appeal.

Miss Willa Sibert Cather is a new writer, and "April Twilights" is the title of her first book. The title has no particular significance, unless it suggests the subdued tone of her tranquil musings. "Prairie Dawn" is pretty enough to quote.

"A crimson fire that vanquishes the stars;
A pungent odor from the dusty sage;
A sudden stirring of the huddled herds;
A breaking of the distant table-lands

Through purple mists ascending, and the flare
Of water-ditches silver in the light;
A swift, bright lance hurled low across the world;
A sudden sickness for the hills of home."

Of such exquisite description there is much in Miss Cather's collection; there are also engaging reflections from the world of books, the history and the legend of the ages.

Last upon our list comes "The Solitary Path," by Miss Helen Huntington. Here is a pleasing quatrain called "After Nightfall."

"The sunset sky, with whirl of night and flame,
Sang Passion's fleeting hour! came night at length,
And, black against a cold and moonlit sky,
The lonely mountains told their tale of Strength."

A longer and more human example is the poem entitled "Barbara."

"You, for an hour, have been dear,
And till the end shall be dearest,
Come mistress or wife to divide your life,
'Tis I will have crept the nearest.

"'Farewell!' you may cry, as you go.
You are keen for the world's great track,
The shout of the crowd, and the love that's allowed;
But your thoughts shall turn back, turn back.

"And the hour which you swear to forget,
And the love that was idle breath,
Shall return in their wrath, and arise in your path,
And follow you on, to Death."

Miss Huntington works within very narrow limits, but her touch is delicate and effective.

WILLIAM MORTON PAYNE.

BRIEFS ON NEW BOOKS.

The New International Encyclopædia.

When the first three volumes of "The New International Encyclopædia" were sent us by Messrs. Dodd, Mead, & Co., we took occasion to congratulate both publishers and editors upon the execution of the work, and upon its special adaptation to the needs of those who wish information upon specific subjects and do not wish to search for the information through elaborate essays or to be bothered by too complicated a system of cross-references. Since that first notice, additional instalments of the Encyclopædia have come to us from time to time, until at the present writing seven new volumes are at hand. These volumes, numbering from IV. to X. inclusive, carry on the alphabetical series of topics from Canada Balsam to Larramendi. This last-mentioned entry, by the way, is the name of a Spanish Jesuit of the eighteenth century who was an authority on the language of the Basques. Running through the volumes we note the following among the more elaborate articles. Chemistry, Chicago, Chinese Empire, Costume, Egypt, Electricity and allied topics, England and English Literature, Europe, Fortification, France, Germany, Great Britain, Heraldry, Horse, India, Italy, Japan, and Jews. The illustrations are very numerous, including many full-page plates, all interesting and some of marked beauty. We note particularly the many brief articles upon living men and other timely topics, giving just the information we want and often find it very hard to get. Our previous opinion of the usefulness, as well as the readableness, of this work is more than confirmed by our examination of the new volumes. In its own field, this Encyclopædia hardly has a rival among existing publications. — We note at the same time the receipt, from the same publishers, of "The International Year-Book" for 1903. This work is under the same editorial management (except for Dr. Gilman's collaboration) as the other, and is an indispensable adjunct to the labors of the editor, the teacher, the clergyman, and the publicist. There are half a dozen maps and many plates. A cumulative index to the volumes of the five preceding years is a useful feature of this work.

The Kaiser's character as seen in his speeches.

In his latest book, "The Kaiser's Speeches" (Harper) Mr. Wolf von Schierbrand furnishes an admirable supplement to his recent volume on Germany. That work devoted several chapters to the Emperor's personality, and discussed the potent influence of his leadership upon the development of the new Empire. The present one not only contains the sources upon which those chapters were based, but gives a large amount of related matter. The material for the greater part of this work is found in Klausmann's recent authorized compilation of the Emperor's speeches — a fact that the author fully acknowledges. He has, however, added several speeches from other sources, — some, possibly, that His Majesty might have preferred to have forgotten. When needed, explanatory notes are given, and the various addresses or extracts on related topics are connected by comment or narrative, into separate chapters. The chapters are in turn grouped under three general divisions, dealing respectively with the Emperor's efforts to preserve both the domestic and the foreign peace of Germany; with his activity in promoting the welfare of his people; and, lastly, with his private character and personal relations. The translation is Mr. von Schierbrand's own. The book is readable and interesting, and gives an admirable notion of that many-sided activity that distinguishes William II. among modern sovereigns. Of particular interest are the chapters dealing with his tactful efforts to preserve peace and to promote educational reform. The whole gives the impression of a character dominated by a well-formed and consistently developed purpose — a view quite at variance with the popular estimate of the Kaiser. There are occasional inaccuracies in statement, such as the reference to Frederick the Great as the Emperor's "great sire." More striking is the fact that while the author's English is ordinarily excellent, the German idiom has often been too strong for him to overcome in the passages in which he appears as translator. But such criticism is, in a work of this sort, pedantic;

the book merits cordial commendation. It is welcome to every student of German affairs, and Mr. von Schierbrand deserves cordial recognition for the judgment and fairness shown in his selections and for his success in presenting a genuine portrait of the Kaiser.

The essentials of musical education.

A volume which, though unpedantic, contains the result of long and laborious study, and seems sufficiently learned to flatter those who read it in the belief that they are masters of the subject, is "Musical Education" (Appleton), by M. Albert Lavignac. The work, translated from the French by Miss Esther Singleton, is divided into six parts, the first of which, touching in a general way upon musical education, is devoted to music as a language, an art, and a science; hereditary talent and natural aptitudes; indications of musical talent in young children, and the proper age to begin the study of music; the proper length of time for daily study, and the importance of conducting studies methodically and logically. The second part refers in particular to the study of instruments — the piano, organ, harp, string instruments, wind instruments, etc.; the difficulties of the different instruments, and the qualifications of a teacher for advanced pupils. The study of singing, dwelt upon in the third part, is very interesting, and gives lucid hints on the examination of the natural voice, hygiene of the voice, methods of vocalization and period of daily studies, the accompaniment, studies necessary for the stage, and physical requirements for an opera singer. In part four we are told of various studies necessary for composers — the study of harmony and counterpoint, orchestration and instrumentation. "Of the means of rectifying a musical education that has been ill-directed at the beginning, and how to remedy it," is the general title of the fifth part; and, subservient to this, the closing chapter dwells upon private teaching, class instruction and conservatory instruction, with a few remarks on American and European conservatories. Those portions of the essays devoted to the early education of embryonic artists contain opinions which we all might well entertain. There is not only room, but an actual demand, for a work which, like the present, aims at giving not alone an account of each particular branch of musical art, but a condensed summary of modern criticism upon it — a summary which is not obscured or disfigured by a vicious redundancy of words. In short, M. Lavignac's volume is a sort of musical *vademecum*, sober in tone and replete with information.

Portraitures of Julius Cæsar.

A sumptuous volume on the "Portraitures of Julius Cæsar," by Mr. Frank Jesup Scott, is issued by Messrs. Longmans, Green & Co. Thirty-seven full-page plates and forty-nine inset engravings represent to the reader very fairly the alleged likenesses of Cæsar to be found in the various public museums of the present day. We regard it as unfortunate for Mr. Scott's discussion of these likenesses that his unbounded admiration for Cæsar will allow him to accept no representation as adequate which does not fill his ideal of the man in every important feature. Some will not do because "the suave gentleman, the sweet-mannered friend, the philosopher, are not visible" in them. The "calm and stately orator," the "far-seeing statesman," must always be suggested. There can be no good portraiture which does not show his "kindly placidity of temper," under which must be revealed "a vein of fearless audacity," curbed by "calm powers of reasoning." An "imperturbable consciousness of power" is also a *sine qua non*, as well as the evidence of "electric energy." Now artists who can understand a really great character, and reproduce it, soul, external features, and all, are rare in any age, we are told, and there is no evidence that there were any such in the age of Julius Cæsar. We are thus left free to reject all portraitures of the Dictator's own time as necessarily defective, and to demand as the only adequate likeness something which shall display all the fine qualities to be detected in any detail of the material which has come down to us, plus all the noble and heroic traits to be culled out of ancient literature, — or, we are tempted to add, to be read into it under the influence of a super-heated admiration. It is to be said, in general, that men do not always wear all their good qualities within reach of even an artist's eye, and in particular that there is good ground for question whether Julius Cæsar really possessed the almost divine character here attributed to him. We may thank Mr. Scott heartily, however, for getting this material together, and presenting it in such effective shape.

Garden-love and garden-lore.

"My Kalendar of Country Delights" is a compilation, — one of the class of books once called Commonplace Books, wherein the writer gathered during his reading any memorable sentences or chapters or thoughts and transcribed them in a book, sometimes with slight comment or classification. In derivative form, and on garden topics, an early and charming volume of this class was "The Day-book of Bethia Hardacre," published about ten years ago. Somewhat varied is Mrs. Milne-Home's more recent and more fascinating "Stray Leaves from a Border Garden." No volume of which fully half the pages are transcribed from the old herbals of Gerarde and Parkinson could be dull to any flower-lover; and such is the make-up of this Kalendar. The author states that she has culled "from rare books" only. In America, these herbals are certainly rare, though copies are constantly offered for sale; but it is a large stretch of the signification of a word to term Bacon's essay "Of Gardens" rare. We think every word of it is quoted somewhere in this "Kalendar," sprinkled about on two-score pages. The reader of garden-books sighs as he turns the pages of each new volume of this class, and encounters therein the familiar italics and capitals of Bacon's words,

"God Almighty first Created a Garden, and Indeed," and so on; pages which he has memorized unconsciously from their constant thrusting before him. Nor is Forbes Watson's "Flowers and Gardens" rare; for it has been reprinted recently. Much of it is in this "Kalendar," but its exquisite words never stale. It may be added that for the author of five books on gardens to write that she "does not know the author of the following poem" is surprising indeed, when we find that the verse she refers to is Mr. T. E. Brown's gem of poesy, "A Garden is a lovesome thing, God wot." This she gives as a *lonesome* thing, — a sad error. Her quotations from the herbals also have some changes, as we compare them with original copies of Gerarde's "Great Herbal" (1633) and Parkinson's "Paradisi in Sole" (1635). But these need not be errors; for there were three editions of each of these great volumes, and Mrs. Milman may have copied from other editions than ours. A charming feature of the book is the list of old English plant-names. These are given as original, but like lists may be found in Britten's "English Plant Names" and in Prior's "Popular Names of British Plants." The author states that she herself has learned much that is new in preparing this book. This is doubtless true; but we cannot think she teaches her reader much that is unfamiliar. Some of the quotations and transcripts may seem new to one of narrow garden-craft and scant garden-lore; but to any true garden student, the pages in general are familiar. They are none the worse, however, for that; and we can enjoy them even if we do not find the quaint and pretty novelties of imaginative thought and original experience that sparkle alongside the like quotations in Mrs. Milne-Home's pages.

Our planetary companions.

One looks rather askance at a new book on "The Solar System," wondering what of novelty or special interest can be written on a theme so well worn and presumably so adequately treated — from a popular standpoint — in many recent works on astronomy. But Mr. Percival Lowell has presented us with a small treatise quite unlike any other on the subject. The fact that it has no preface indicates perchance the author's opinion that it can speak for itself; while the absence of an index suggests the erroneous idea that the book belongs to the domain of summer fiction. But the title-page rights these speculations by advising the reader that six lectures to the young men of the Massachusetts Institute of Technology have been bound up together for the benefit of a larger audience. However, they are apparently intended for the comparatively small number of those who are students of matters astronomical, and who can dig the hidden beauties out of the mathematical formulæ which start out of the pages now and then and interrupt the easy flow of description. The planet Mercury is treated in a novel manner, from the standpoint of the author's own observations, which have revealed to him markings best explained as "cracks," whose slowly changing positions point to the conclusion that the planet always keeps the same face to the sun. Saturn and his system are discussed with a freshness and suggestiveness which will hold the attention of even a *blasé* professional astronomer. The interesting chapter on "Jupiter and his Comets" is mainly devoted to expounding in popular fashion the mathematical principles in accordance with which Jupiter snares his prey. Mr. Lowell indicates that the orbits of certain meteoric showers and comets point to the probable existence of a goodly planet in those far-away spaces which lie beyond the path of slow-footed Neptune. The final chapter, upon Cosmogony, is a fresh discussion along lines little exploited in text-books, and serves to stimulate rather than to satisfy; for the questions involved are too recondite for our present knowledge. The publishers (Houghton) have given an attractive dress of red and gold to this little book.

Our little island in the West Indies.

Dr. R. A. Middeldyk's "History of Puerto Rico," the third volume of "The Expansion of the Republic Series" (Appleton), is the first complete history of the island of Puerto Rico ever written either in Spanish or English. The fact that Friar Inigo Abbad's "Historia de la Isla San Juan Bautista," written in 1782, published in 1788, and revised in 1830 to bring it down to the eighteenth century, has been for years the accepted work on the subject, shows the need of an authentic up-to-date history of the island. In the first half of the present book, the author gives a sketch of the Spanish occupation. With the beginning of this story, — Columbus's experiences in America, the wild hunt which the Spanish explorers made for gold, the extinction of the native Indians, — general readers are more or less familiar; but the rest will be new to most of them. Giving only the salient points, the author pictures the social and institutional life of the island during a period of four hundred years, describes the acts of the reigning government, and points out the evils of colonial rule. In the second half of the work he gives the status of Puerto Rico under American control, aiming to present the matter in such a way that the reader can form an accurate judgment of past and present conditions. The writer, who is the Librarian of the Free Public Library of San Juan, tells his interesting story in an easy, graphic style. Appended to the work is a valuable bibliography of Spanish writings on the subject of the island. The book has twelve illustrations.

The character and motives of Benedict Arnold.

In "The Real Benedict Arnold" (A. S. Barnes & Co.), Mr. Charles Burr Todd, not unfavorably known through previous works — notably "The True Aaron Burr" — as a writer on Revolutionary history, has given us an unbiased account of the causes leading up to Arnold's desertion of his country. While the author does not in any sense attempt to lessen the enormity of Arnold's crime, he emphasizes his sub-

ject's invaluable services to America, and points out that he four times saved the cause of the Colonies: first, at the battle of Valcour's Island on Lake Champlain (the first naval battle in which our arms were engaged); second, by raising the siege of Fort Stanwix in the Mohawk Valley and putting to flight St. Leger's invading army marching to aid Burgoyne; and, third and fourth, by winning the two battles at Saratoga, which, conjoined, Cressy included as one of the fifteen decisive battles of the world. Arnold's wife was the beautiful "Peggy" Shippen, of Philadelphia, a member of one of the most influential families of the Quaker City, who had been a general favorite with the British officers before she met Arnold, and particularly with the fascinating John Andre. In deciding her choice for a husband, she saw in the military governor of the city and the major-general of the army great opportunities for social advancement and leadership. Correspondence with Andre and other British officers was carried on after her marriage; and Mr. Todd maintains that it was the influence of Arnold's wife, with whom he was madly infatuated, and his fear of losing her should her treasonable correspondence with his country's enemies be discovered, that induced Arnold to betray his country, and not the gross injustice of Congress nor the calumnies of paper generals — the motives generally ascribed. An especially noteworthy illustration of the book is the reproduction of an old print representing the burning of Arnold in effigy.

Our older territorial expansion.

To the growing list of books describing the steps by which our national territory has increased since colonial times, is added a volume entitled "The American Advance," by Mr. Edmund J. Carpenter. The book follows the conventional plan for such works, a separate chapter of from fifteen to sixty pages being given to each of the nine large additions to our domain. Each chapter contains a careful chronological account of the negotiations and other steps that led to the acquisition of the territory under consideration, without partisan bias or undue national glorification. The book is devoted for the most part to the older territorial expansion,— Cuba, Puerto Rico, Guam, and the Philippines together having but a brief chapter of fifteen pages. There are no footnotes, and the book is intended for the general reader. (John Lane.)

The Turk and his lost provinces.

Mr. William Eleroy Curtis has given us an interesting book about the Eastern Question, in a series of pen pictures, which are really a record of personal observations concerning conditions in Constantinople and the Balkan States on the occasion of a trip which Mr. Curtis made to the East, in 1901, as a newspaper correspondent. The letters which he then wrote have now been collected and brought out in book form under the title of "The Turk and his Lost Provinces" (F. H. Revell Co.) Rivalry and jealousy on the part of European powers, Mr. Curtis tells us, make and keep the Eastern Question an open one. Each nation, fearing that some other one will get more than its share of influence or political privileges, stands idly by and disregards human suffering occasioned by Turkish atrocities committed with impunity in "the Buffer States." War is pending, and must come; the Turk must go. The day is not far distant when the Czar of Russia will occupy the Sultan's throne. Mr. Curtis's work, done in light, easy, sketchy style, with not much of an attempt at literary finish, deals quite fully and interestingly with these and other phases of a very important subject.

A treatise on Trusts and Combinations.

"Trust Finance: A Study of the Genesis, Organization, and Management of Industrial Combinations" (Appleton), by Dr. Edward Sherwood Meade, of the Wharton School of Finance and Economy, is an exceedingly sane and luminous discussion of a timely topic by one who is familiar with his subject. There are so many crude and erroneous notions extant with reference to trusts and combinations, that it is decidedly refreshing to examine a volume which treats of these matters in a dispassionate, intelligent and scholarly manner. The author says that the trust movement began in 1893, following the industrial depression of that year. The industrial revival gathered strength in 1898, and caused a general demand for the stocks of good paying corporations. Professor Meade's work is divided into twenty chapters, which discuss competition, the function and office of the promoter in modern industry, the disposal of the stock of the trust, accumulation of surplus, provision of new capital, bond issue, funding policy, capitalization of corporations, decline of industrial shares, investment possibilities, and suggestions for national legislation on corporation finance. This book supplies a demand not heretofore filled, and will command the interest of the practical man of affairs.

NOTES.

"Hamlet," edited by Professor L. A. Sherman, is a new "Pocket Classic" published by the Macmillan Co.

"The History of France," by Mr. Arthur Hassall, is a new "Temple Primer" published by the Macmillan Co.

"Real Things in Nature," by Professor Edward S. Holden, is "a reading-book of science for American boys and girls" which has recently been published by the Macmillan Co.

"American Heroes and Heroism," by Messrs. William A. Mowry and Arthur May Mowry, is a book of simple biographical reading for children, just published by Messrs. Silver, Burdett, & Co.

New editions of "Fundamental Problems," by Dr. Paul Carus, and of the same author's "Karma: A Story of Buddhist Ethics," have just been sent us by the Open Court Publishing Co.

Mr. David Nutt is the publisher of a beautifully printed volume containing "The Story of Cupid and Psyche," translated from Apuleius by Mr. Charles Stuttaford, and illustrated by Miss Jessie Mothersole.

"A Geography of Commerce," by Messrs. John N. Tilden and Albert Clarke, is published by Messrs. B. H. Sanborn & Co.

The works of Thomas Campion, including his songs and masques, and the "Observations in the Art of English Poesy," have again been edited by Mr. A. H. Bullen, this time in a volume of "The Muses' Library," of which the Messrs. Scribner are the American publishers.

"A General History of Commerce," by Mr. William Clarence Webster, is a recent educational publication of Messrs. Ginn & Co., and will do useful work in supplying the growing demand for modern text-books in the commercial courses that our high-schools are setting up so generally.

A "Guide to Switzerland" is added to the series of travellers' manuals published by the Macmillan Co. The maps are numerous and particularly good, while the text is both compact and up-to-date. No other guide-book can be quite as good as a Bædeker, but the one before us has many commendable features.

"Ephemeral Bibelots" appears on the title-page, and "Modern Chap-Books and their Imitators" upon the cover, of a pamphlet by Mr. Frederick Winthrop Faxon, sent us by the Boston Book Co. In substance, this little work is a bibliography of the freakish toy periodicals that have sprung up in such numbers during the past ten years. But how does an ex-Secretary of the American Library Association reconcile with his conscience this provision of alternative titles?

Volume VIII. of the "Studies and Notes in Philology and Literature," published for Harvard University by Messrs. Ginn & Co., is given up to two extensive monographs in the Arthurian field. Mr. Arthur C. L. Brown is the author of "Iwain: A Study in the Origins of Arthurian Romance," which comes first in the volume, and this work is followed by "Arthur and Gorlagon," a new text, edited with much apparatus chiefly relating to werewolves by Professor George L. Kittredge.

The Division of Bibliography of the Library of Congress is engaged in the very useful work of publishing special lists of book and periodical references upon timely topics. A batch of these bibliographies just sent out includes the following subjects: labor and strikes, old age and civil-service pensions, industrial arbitration, government ownership of railroads, the Constitution of the United States, federal control of commerce and corporations, Anglo-Saxon interests, the negro question, cabinets of England and America, and a second edition of the bibliography of mercantile marine subsidies. Mr. A. P. C. Griffin is the division chief under whose direction these lists are prepared.

"The Espurgatoire Saint Patriz of Marie de France," by Professor T. Atkinson Jenkins, is a decennial publication of the University of Chicago. Nearly ten years ago we mentioned an edition of the same work by the same editor, but since that publication the author has had access to important material which he did not then use. The present edition gives us in parallel columns both the French text and the Latin of the "Tractatus de Purgatorio Sancti Patricii" of Henricus Salteriensis, which was the original from which Marie de France worked. This edition is thus made much more complete and valuable than its predecessor, and constitutes a highly creditable addition to the series of learned publications in which it is included.

"On the Literary Theories of Taine and Herbert Spencer" is the title of a pamphlet published by Mr. David Nutt, and containing two lectures by Professor A. T. W. Borsdorf. The tendency of the author's criticism is destructive, as he aims only to help clear the way for the constructive work of the future.

An unusually attractive guide-book to the city of Boston, prepared by Mr. Edwin M. Bacon, is issued by Messrs. Ginn & Co. Original and authentic material, numerous maps in color and in diagram, handy indexes and running-titles, and good mechanical execution, help to make this one of the best city guides we know.

A committee of the Franklin and Marshall College, of Lancaster, Pennsylvania, has prepared a "Catalogue of Officers and Students" of that institution from the date of its founding in 1787 to the present time. An "Obituary Record" for recent years is also published. These two works are pamphlets, but they are accompanied by a substantial bound volume of four hundred pages, giving a "History of Franklin and Marshall College" in ample detail. This is the work of Professor Joseph Henry Dubbs, and is handsomely illustrated. The earlier chapters of this book, as may easily be understood, throw many interesting sidelights upon the beginning of the national period of American history.

The latest batch of the University of Chicago decennial publications includes a noteworthy examination, by Professor Oliver Joseph Thatcher, of the questions connected with the papal grant of Ireland to Henry II. "Studies Concerning Adrian IV." is the title of this monograph, and the author accepts the view that the Bull *Laudabiliter* is a rhetorical exercise of no historical value. Other publications in this series are "Scientific Method in Education," by Mrs. Ella Flagg Young; "Practical Theology," by Mr. Gerald Birney Smith; "The Elements of Chrysostom's Power as a Preacher," by Professor Galusha Anderson; "Have We the Likeness of Christ?" by Professor Franklin Johnson; "The Self-Purification of Streams," by Professor Edwin O. Jordan; "Some Paradoxes of the English Romantic Movement," by Professor William Darnell MacClintock; and "A Stichometric Scholium to the Medea of Euripides," by Mr. Tenny Frank.

William Ernest Henley, who died on the 12th of this month, at the age of fifty-four, was distinguished as poet, critic, and editor, while his strongly-marked and aggressive personality gave him an inspiring influence upon many of the younger men with whom he was associated. While editor of "The Scots Observer," he almost founded a school of writers, so strongly did he impose himself upon the aspiring talents that found expression in that brilliant journal. He also edited, at different times, "London," "The Magazine of Art," and "The New Review." He was one of Stevenson's most intimate friends, and the two men wrote several plays in collaboration. His editions of Burns and Byron were enriched with much vigorous and characteristic commentary of the sort that often arouses violent antagonisms. His place as a poet is high among the minor singers of the last half-century, and there are few lovers of poetry who do not have associations with his "Hospital Rhymes," his "London Voluntaries," and his "Hawthorne and Lavender." His verse is hot and full-blooded, caring little for nicety of expression, and in general exhibitive of far more energy than art. At any rate, there is little that is imitative about his work, and his originality is as unquestionable as his strength.

List of New Books.

[The following list, containing 61 titles, includes books received by The Dial *since its last issue.]*

GENERAL LITERATURE.

A History of American Literature. By William P. Trent, M.A., LL. D. 12mo, pp. 608. "Literatures of the World." D. Appleton & Co. $1.40 *net.*

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